

Marriage & Divorce

An Overview: 2004

Marriages:

Number Occurring in S.D.	6,485
S.D. Rate per 1,000 Population	8.6
U.S. Rate per 1,000 Population *	7.4*
Age of Bride for South Dakota Residents (Years)	
Mean	29
Median	26
Mode	22
Range	
Lower	15
Upper	85
Age of Groom for South Dakota Residents (Years)	
Mean	32
Median	28
Mode	23
Range	
Lower	17
Upper	88

Divorces and Annulments:

Number Occurring in S.D.	2,358
S.D. Rate Per 1,000 Population	3.1
U.S. Rate per 1,000 Population*	3.7*
Years Married Before Termination in S.D.	
Mean	10
Median	7
Mode	3
Range	
Lower	Less Than 1
Upper	47

Note: *U.S. data are provisional.

Source: South Dakota Department of Health. Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Marriages in South Dakota

Marriage rates in South Dakota reached their peak in 1973 at 18 marriages per 1,000 population. In 2004, the South Dakota marriage rate was 8.6, a 1.2 percent increase from 2003. On the following page is Table

59, which provides the United States and South Dakota marriage rates from 1975 through 2004. Figure 25, on the next page, illustrates the changes in these rates over this time frame.

Table 59
Marriages and Marriage Rates by Occurrence,
South Dakota and United States, 1975-2004

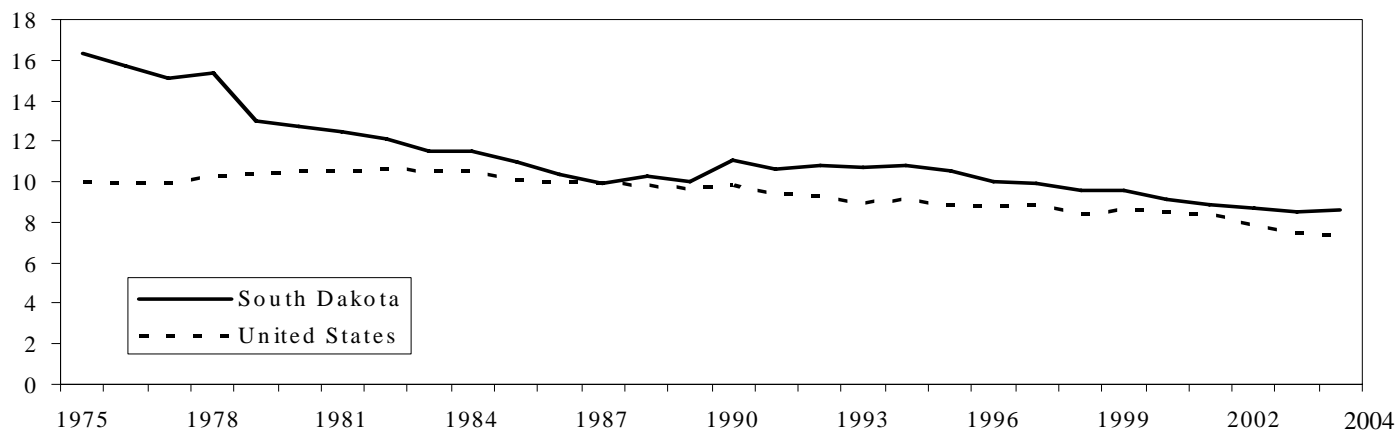
Year	United States		South Dakota	
	Number	Crude Rate	Number	Crude Rate
2004	2,178,000	7.4	6,485	8.6
2003	2,187,000	7.5	6,427	8.5
2002	2,254,000	7.8	6,585	8.7
2001	2,327,000	8.4	6,719	8.9
2000	2,329,000	8.5	6,882	9.1
1999	2,358,000	8.6	6,863	9.9
1998	2,256,000	8.4	6,705	9.6
1997	2,384,000	8.9	6,867	9.9
1996	2,344,000	8.8	6,991	10.0
1995	2,336,000	8.9	7,283	10.5
1994	2,362,000	9.1	7,528	10.8
1993	2,334,000	9.0	7,413	10.7
1992	2,362,000	9.3	7,549	10.8
1991	2,371,000	9.4	7,374	10.6
1990	2,443,489	9.8	7,716	11.1
1989	2,403,268	9.7	7,108	10.0
1988	2,395,926	9.8	7,328	10.3
1987	2,403,378	9.9	6,996	9.9
1986	2,407,099	10.0	7,386	10.4
1985	2,412,625	10.1	7,793	11.0
1984	2,477,192	10.5	8,057	11.5
1983	2,445,604	10.5	8,013	11.5
1982	2,456,278	10.6	8,353	12.1
1981	2,422,145	10.5	8,662	12.5
1980	2,390,252	10.5	8,800	12.7
1979	2,331,337	10.4	8,978	13.0
1978	2,282,272	10.3	10,638	15.4
1977	2,178,367	9.9	10,359	15.1
1976	2,154,807	9.9	10,781	15.7
1975	2,152,662	10.0	11,074	16.3

Note: Beginning in 1991, the United States data are based on estimates.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics

South Dakota Department of Health , Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 25
Marriages Occurring in South Dakota and United States, 1975-2004



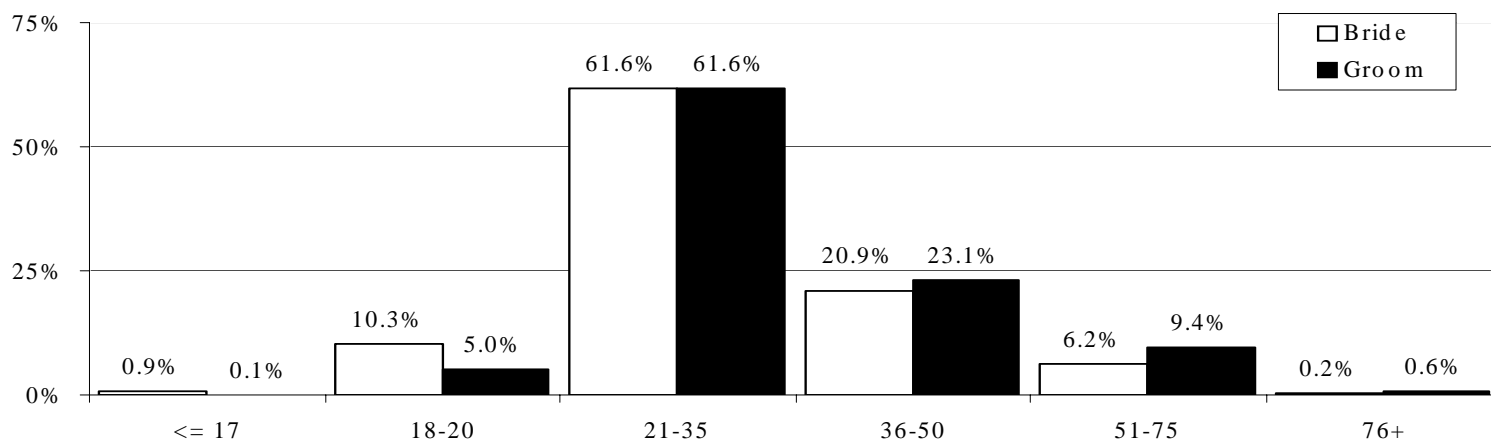
Source: National Center for Health Statistics

South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

For South Dakota residents, the mean or average age of brides in 2004 was 29 years of age, the median age was 26, and the modal age was 22. The age of brides in 2004 ranged from a low of 15 to a high of

85. The mean age of South Dakota resident grooms in 2004 was 32 years of age, the median age was 28, and the modal age was 23. The age of grooms in 2004 ranged from a low of 17 to a high of 88.

Figure 26
Brides and Grooms by Age Group for Marriages Occurring in South Dakota, 2004



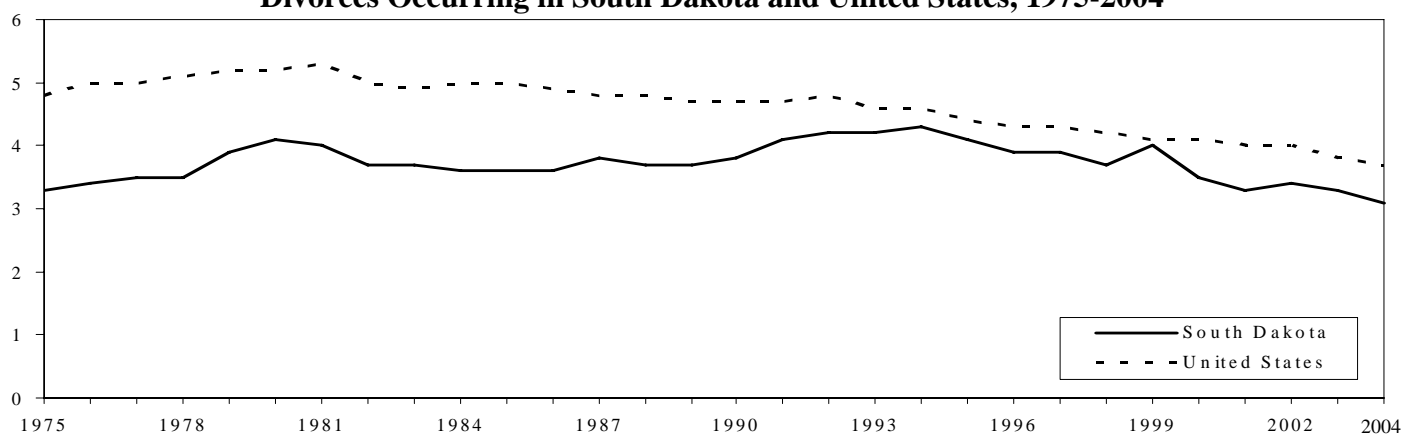
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Divorces in South Dakota

For comparisons over time, Figure 27 below, illustrates the rates for South Dakota and national divorce rates from 1975 to 2004. Table 60, page 82, lists the rates for South Dakota and the United States.

As displayed, the 2004 South Dakota divorce rate was 3.1 divorces per 1,000 population, a 6.1 percent decrease from 2003.

Figure 27
Divorces Occurring in South Dakota and United States, 1975-2004



Note: Beginning in 1991, the United States data are based on estimates.

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Table 60
Number and Rate of Divorces and Annulments by Occurrence,
South Dakota and United States, 1975-2004

Year	United States		South Dakota	
	Number	Crude Rate	Number	Crude Rate
2004	**	3.7	2,358	3.1
2003	**	3.8	2,502	3.3
2002	**	4.0	2,561	3.4
2001	**	4.0	2,522	3.3
2000	**	4.1	2,678	3.5
1999	**	4.1	2,750	4.0
1998	1,135,000	4.2	2,581	3.7
1997	1,163,000	4.3	2,738	3.9
1996	1,150,000	4.3	2,749	3.9
1995	1,169,000	4.4	2,879	4.1
1994	1,191,000	4.6	2,969	4.3
1993	1,187,000	4.6	2,895	4.2
1992	1,215,000	4.8	2,932	4.2
1991	1,187,000	4.7	2,859	4.1
1990	1,182,000	4.7	2,651	3.8
1989	1,157,000	4.7	2,624	3.7
1988	1,167,000	4.8	2,649	3.7
1987	1,166,000	4.8	2,696	3.8
1986	1,178,000	4.9	2,585	3.6
1985	1,190,000	5.0	2,566	3.6
1984	1,169,000	5.0	2,498	3.6
1983	1,158,000	4.9	2,556	3.7
1982	1,170,000	5.0	2,564	3.7
1981	1,213,000	5.3	2,772	4.0
1980	1,189,000	5.2	2,811	4.1
1979	1,181,000	5.2	2,665	3.9
1978	1,130,000	5.1	2,449	3.5
1977	1,091,000	5.0	2,436	3.5
1976	1,083,000	5.0	2,352	3.4
1975	1,036,000	4.8	2,232	3.3

Note: **U.S. data are not available.

Crude divorce rates are per 1,000 population.

Beginning in 1991, the United States data are based on estimates.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics

South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

For South Dakota divorces, the mean or average duration of the marriages ending in divorce during 2004 was nine years, the median duration was seven years, and the

modal duration was three years. The length of time before terminating the marriage ranged from less than one year to 47 years for 2004 South Dakota divorces.